

LAC COUNTRIES: DIGITAL TRADE REGULATIONS

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DIGITAL TRADE: BUILDING A COMPETITIVE REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
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Outline

- LAC countries: restrictions, enabling policies and DTI index by country
- Policy areas with highest potential for regional integration in LAC
- Conclusions

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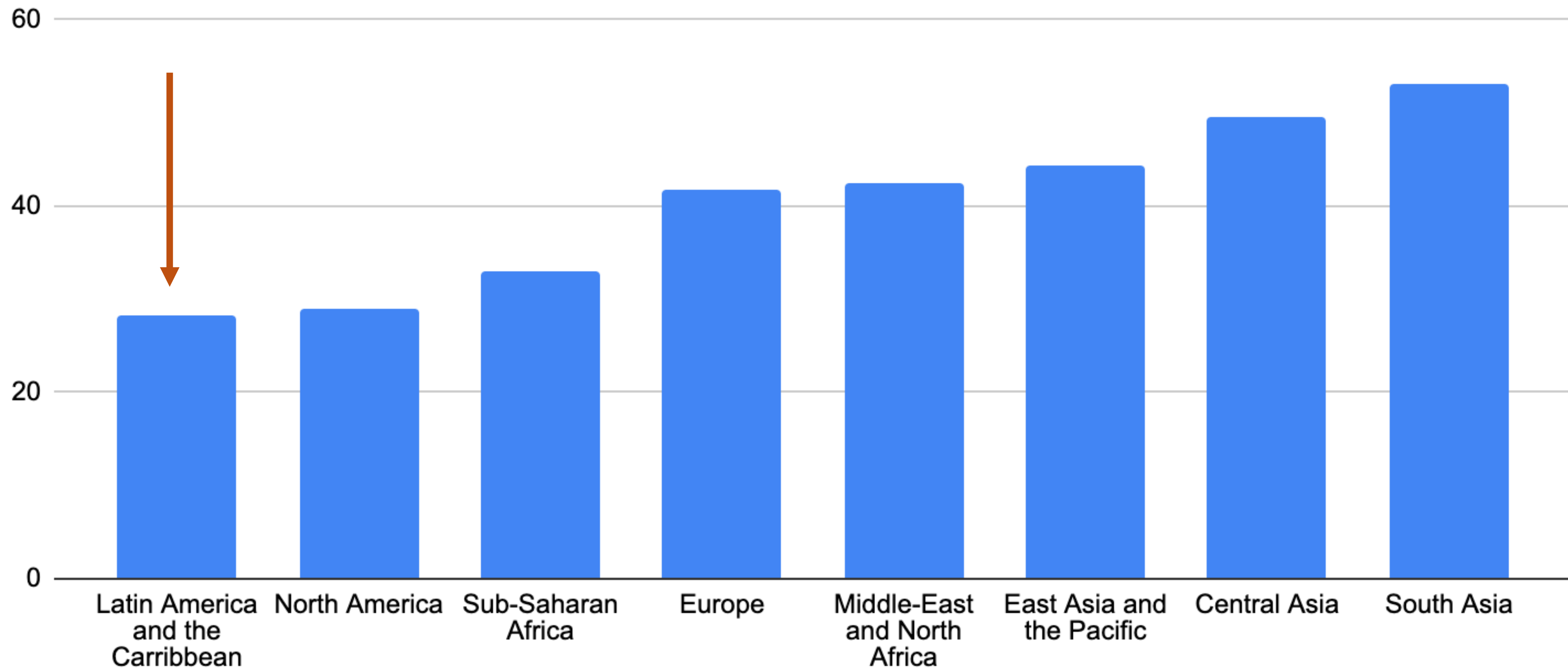
Country coverage

- Concluded for 21 LAC countries
- On-going for 7 additional countries by 2023:
 - Barbados
 - Belize
 - Guyana
 - Haiti
 - Suriname
 - St Lucia
 - Grenada



Number of restrictions, by region

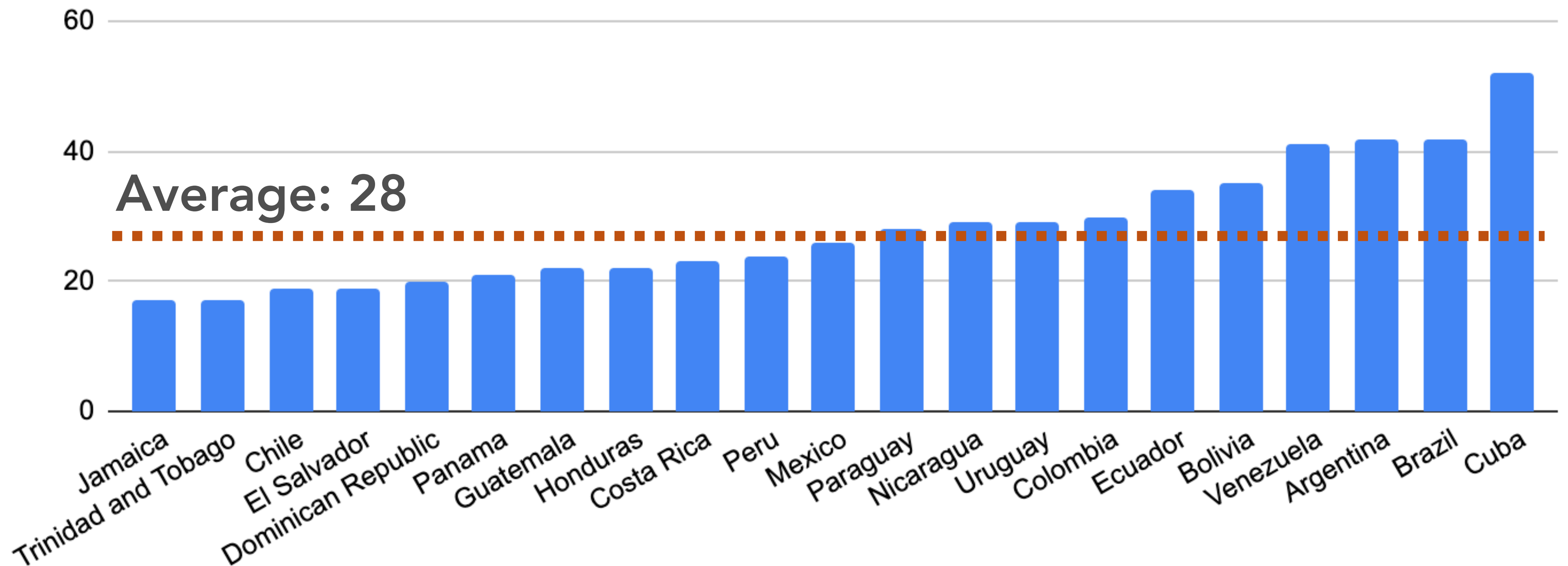
No. of policies expected to have a negative impact on digital trade



Source: DTI database.

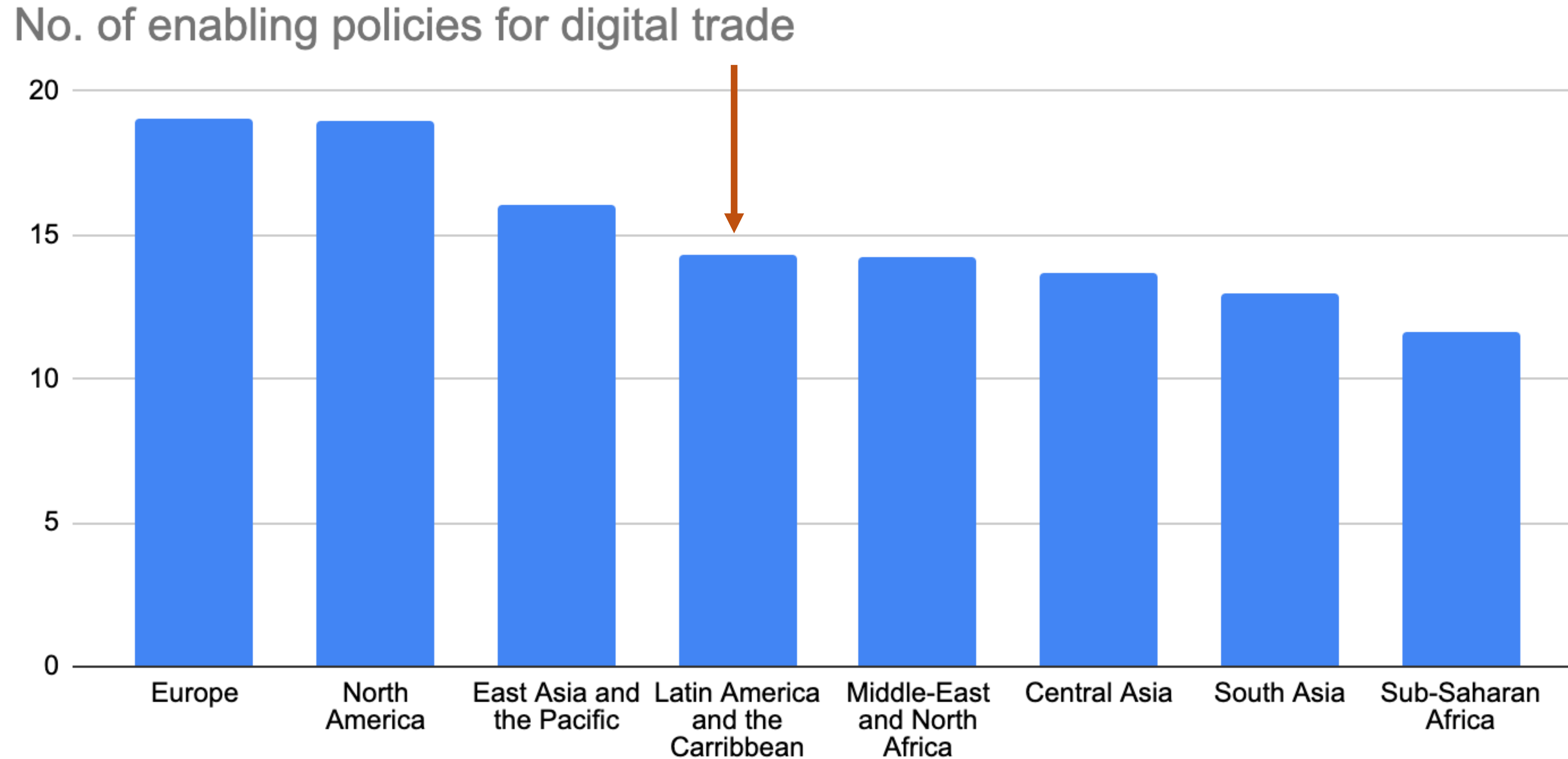
Number of restrictions in LAC region

Number of policies expected to impact negatively digital trade



Source: DTI database.

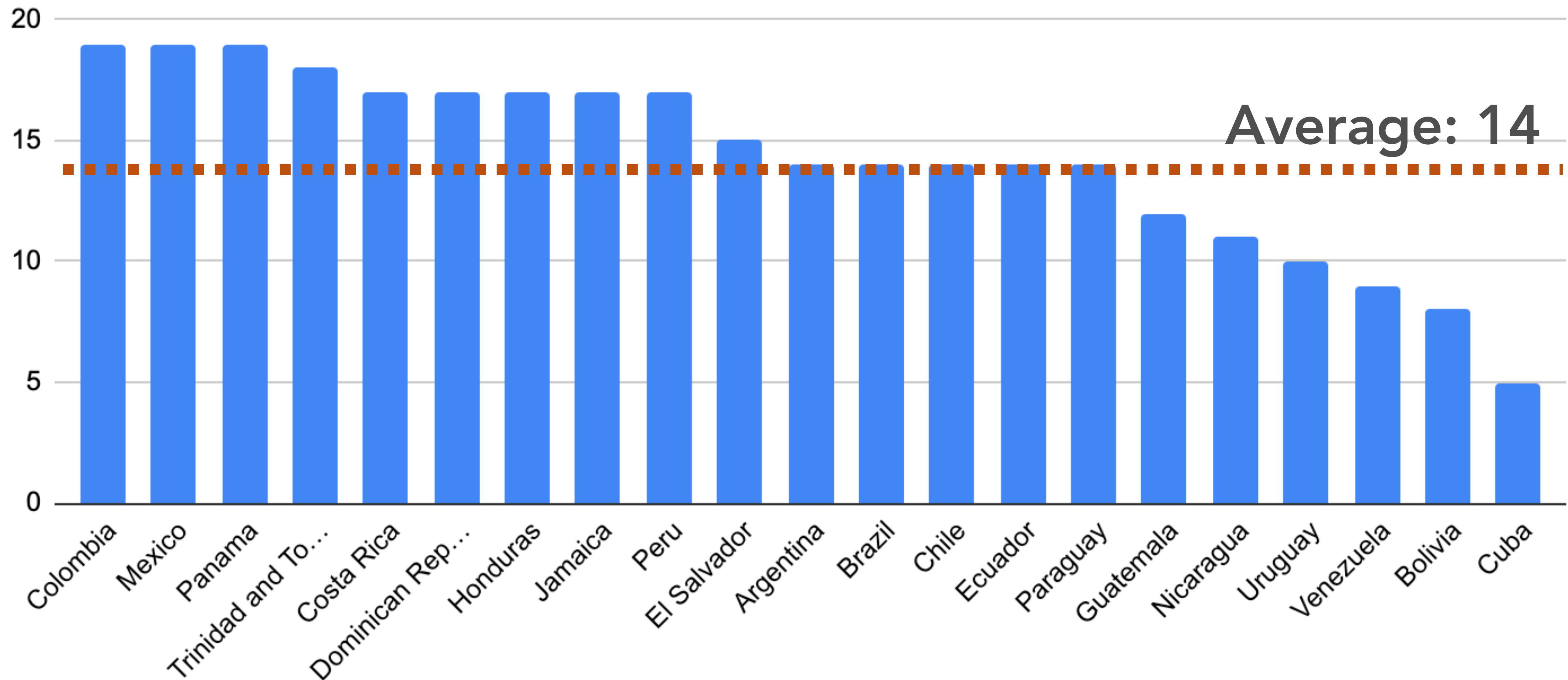
Number of enabling policies, by region



Source: DTI database.

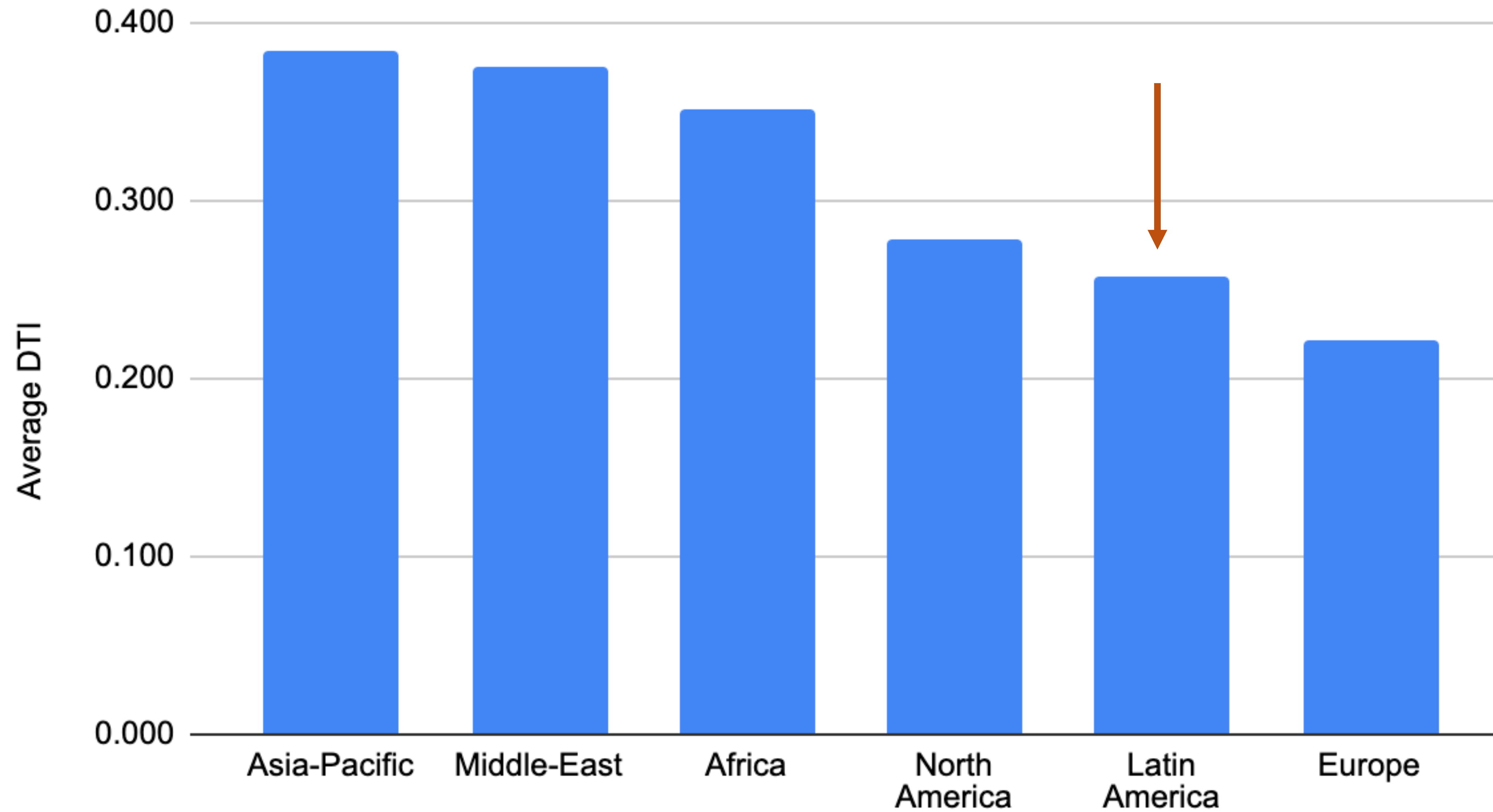
Number of enabling policies in LAC region

Number of enabling measures for digital trade



Source: DTI database.

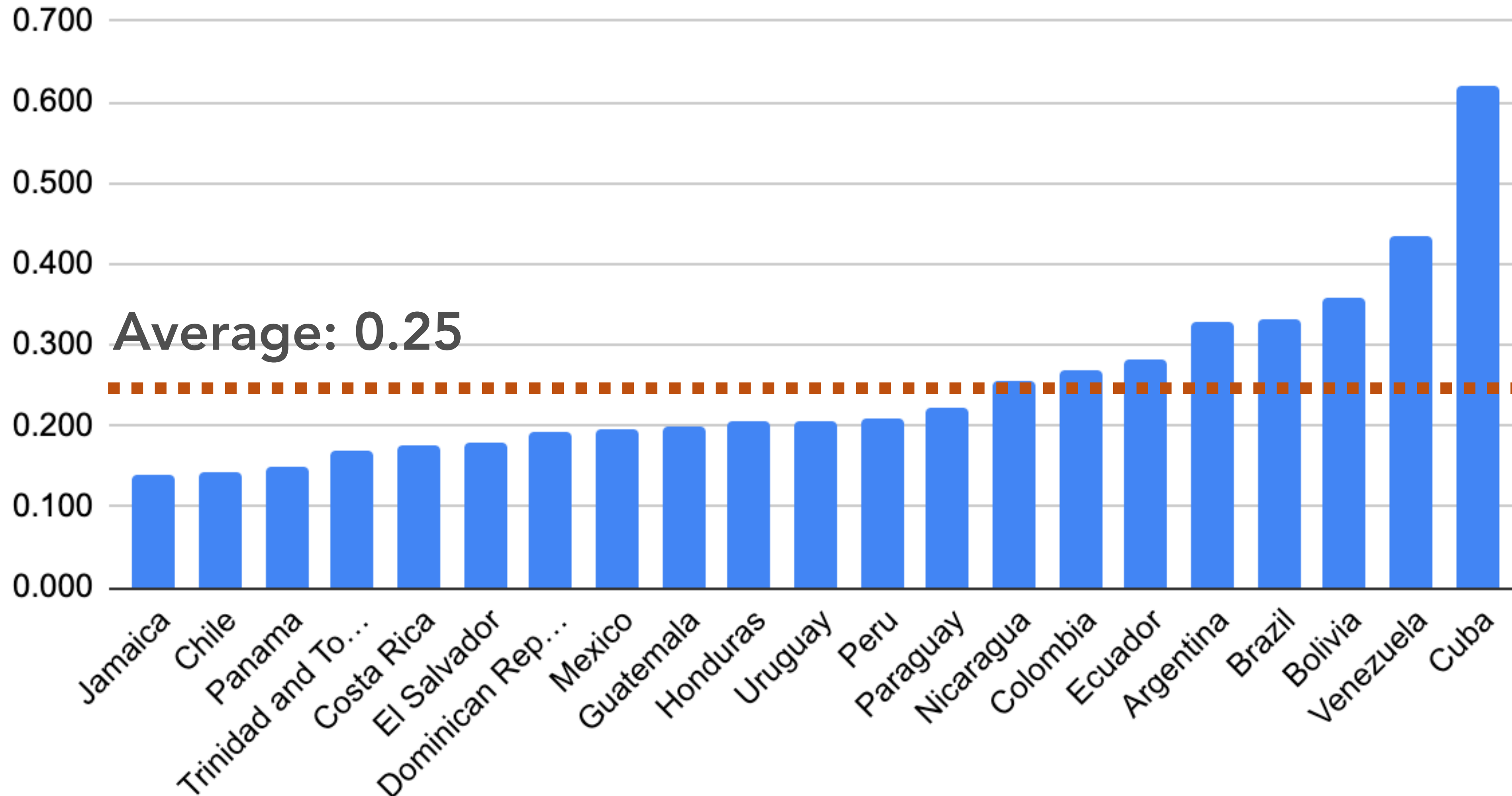
Preliminary findings: Digital Trade Integration Index



Source: DTI index (forthcoming).

DTI index in LAC region

Digital Trade Integration Index



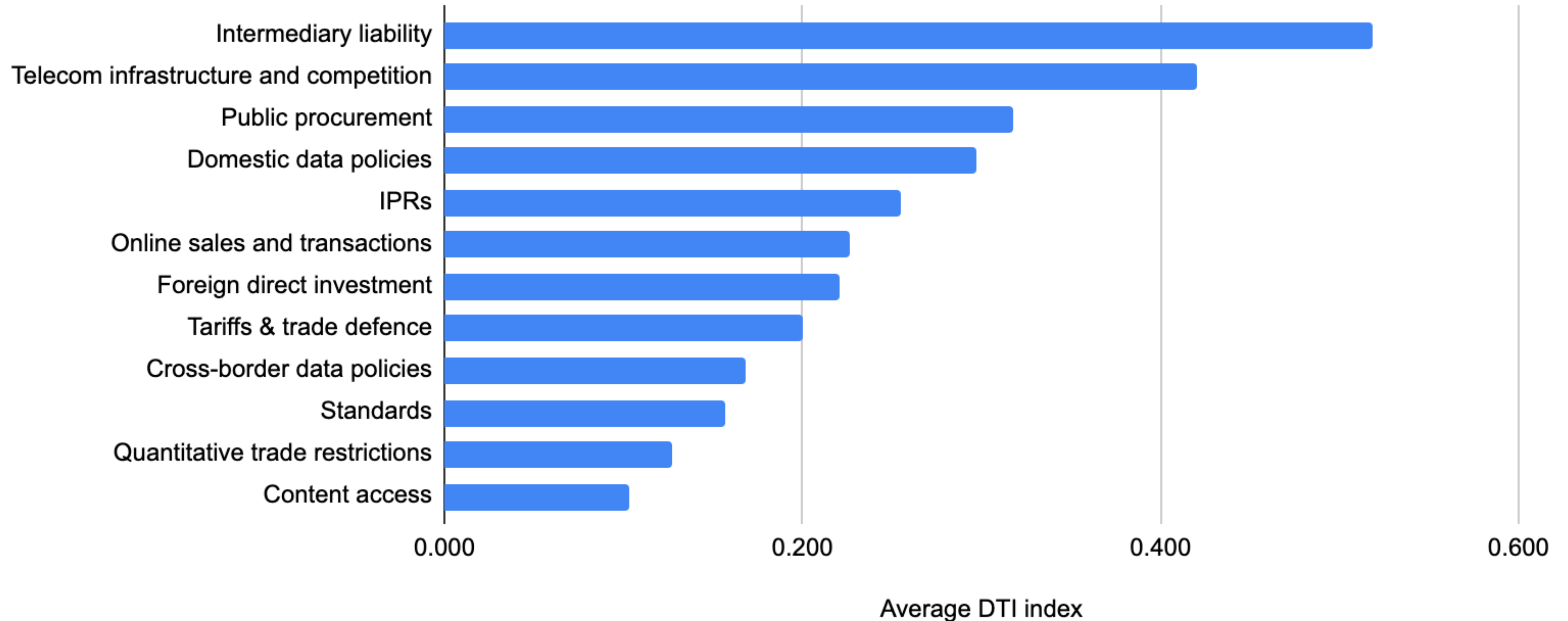
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DTI index by policy area

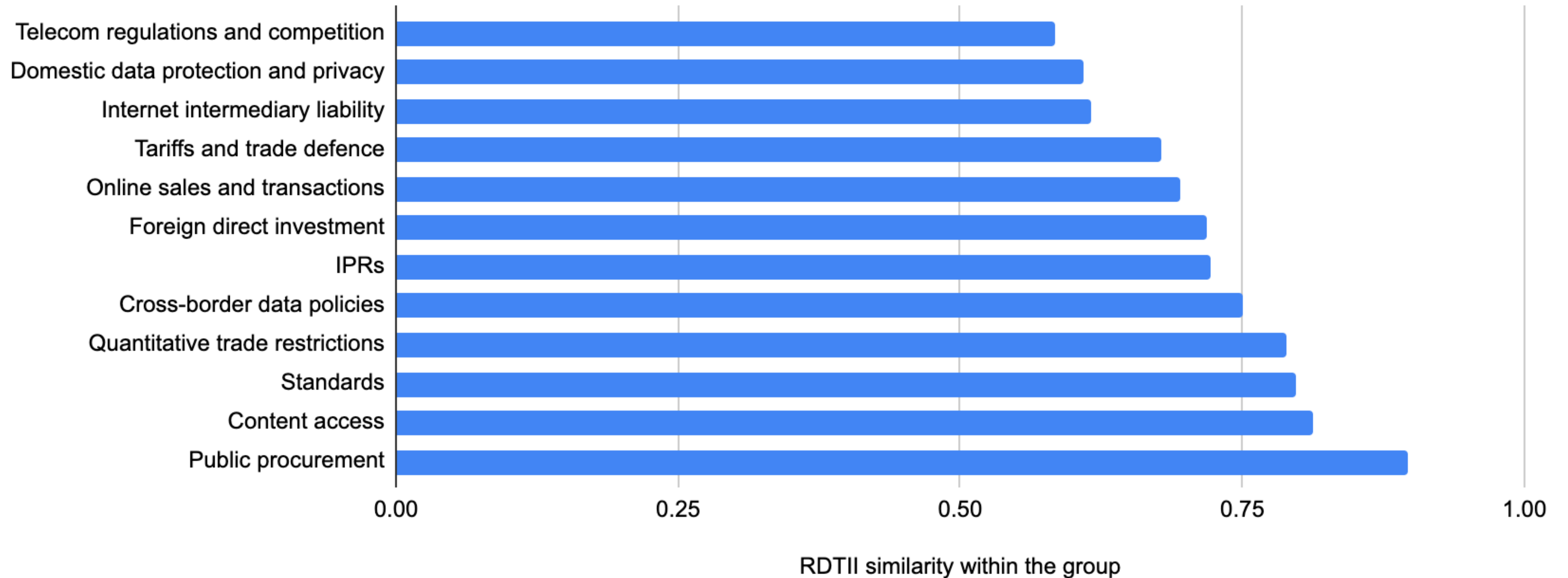
Average DTI index by policy area



Source: DTI index (forthcoming).

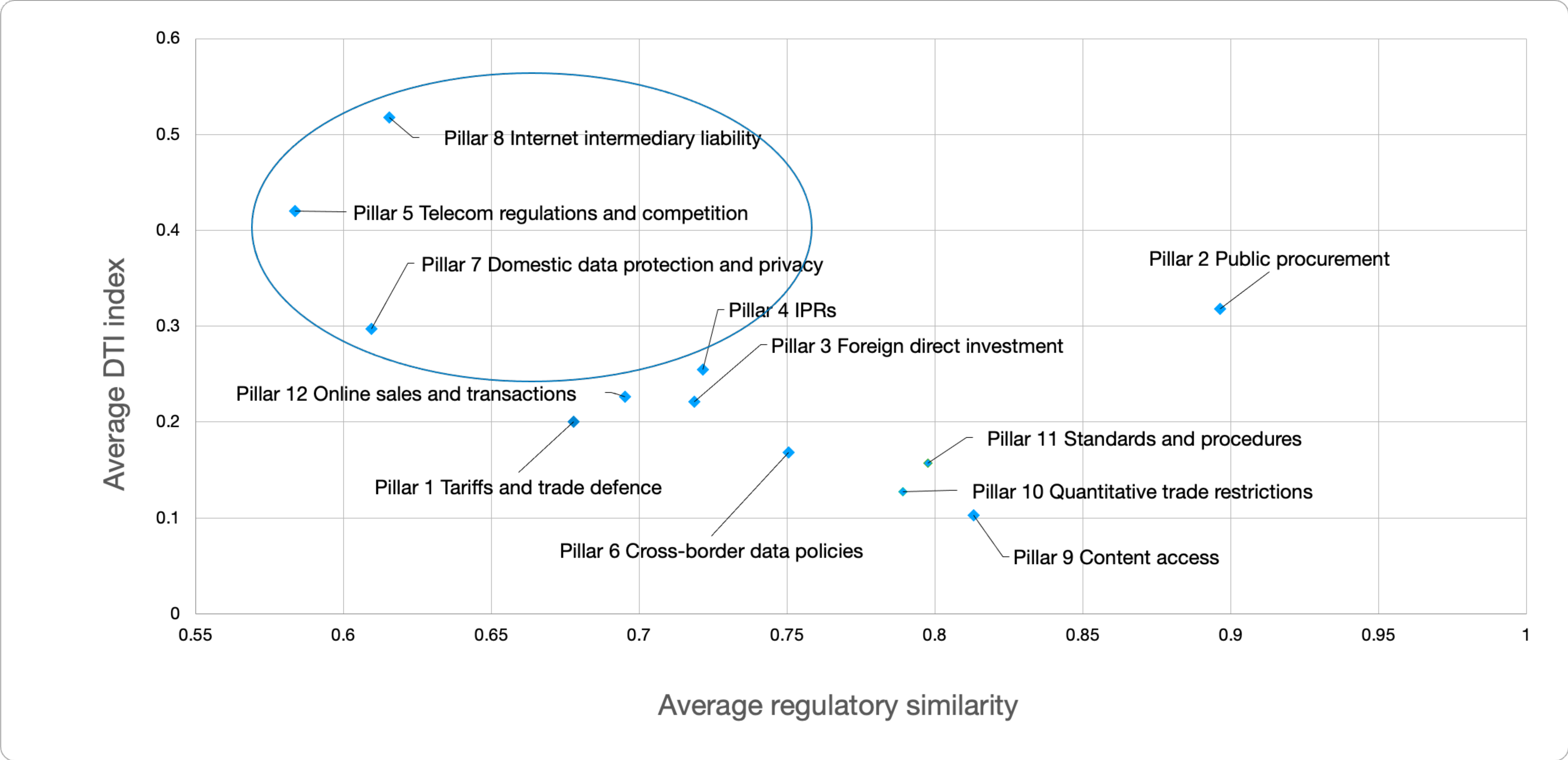
Regulatory similarity/heterogeneity by policy area

Regulatory similarity by policy area



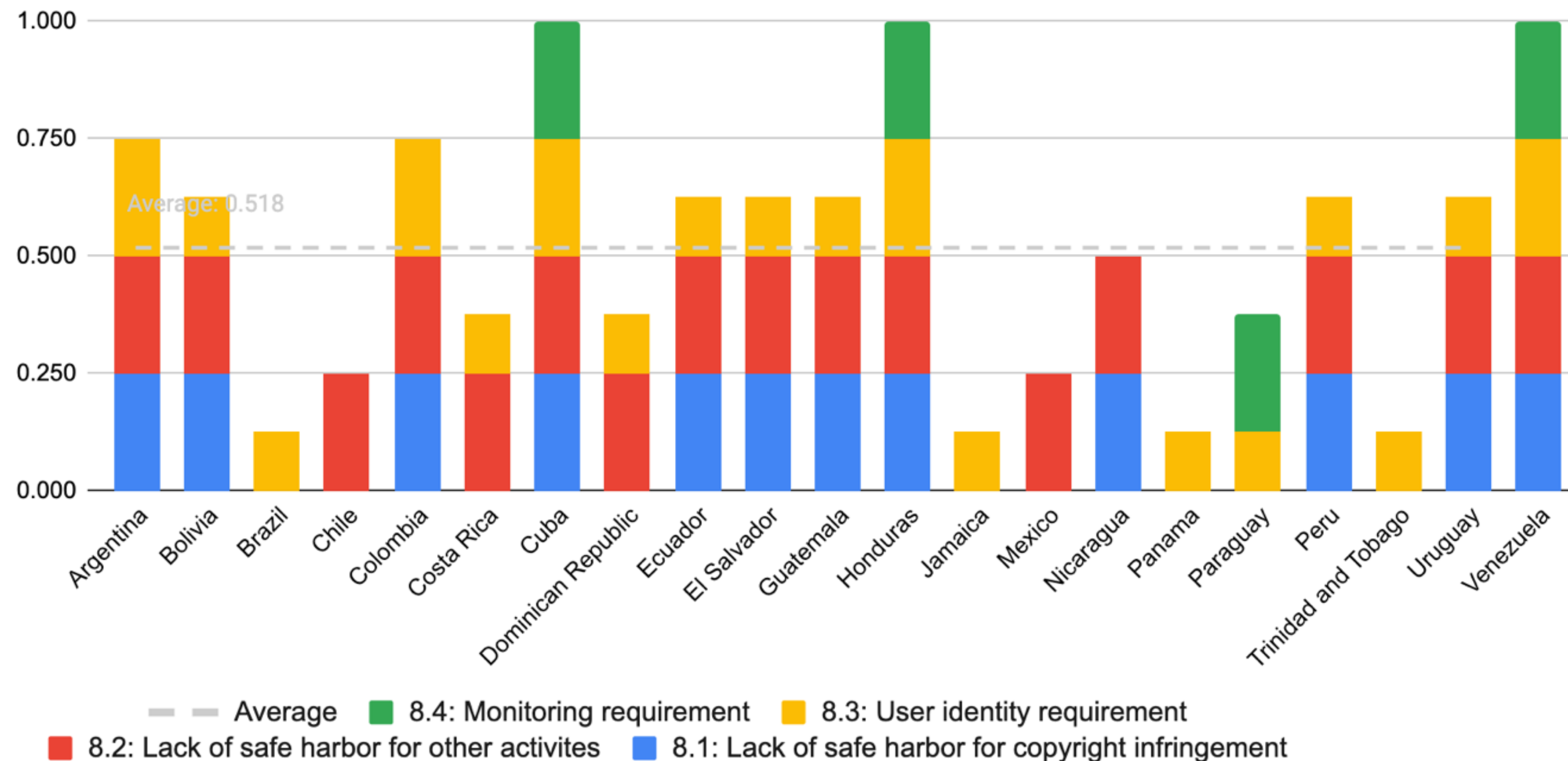
Source: DTI index (forthcoming).

DTI index by policy area



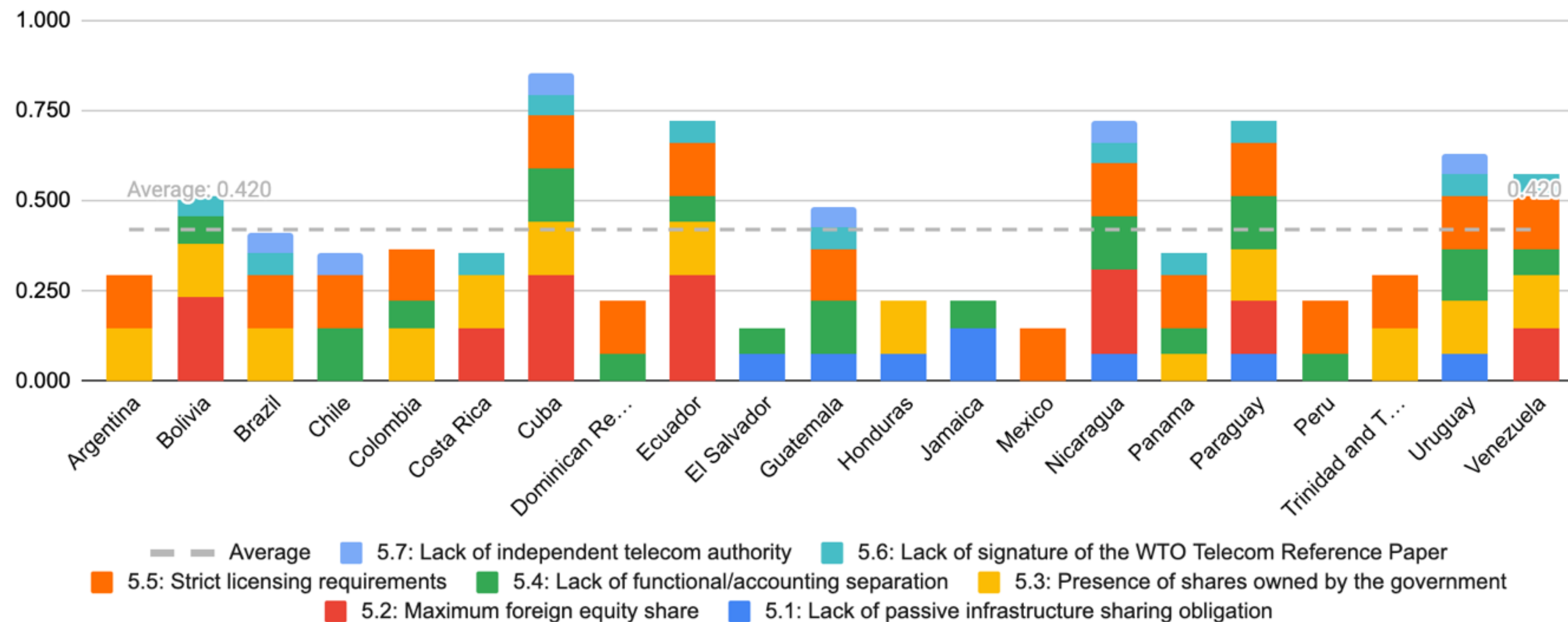
Intermediary liability

- Cuba, Honduras and Venezuela show a very strict regulatory environment
- Most countries lack a safe harbor for platforms
- Most countries implement identity requirements



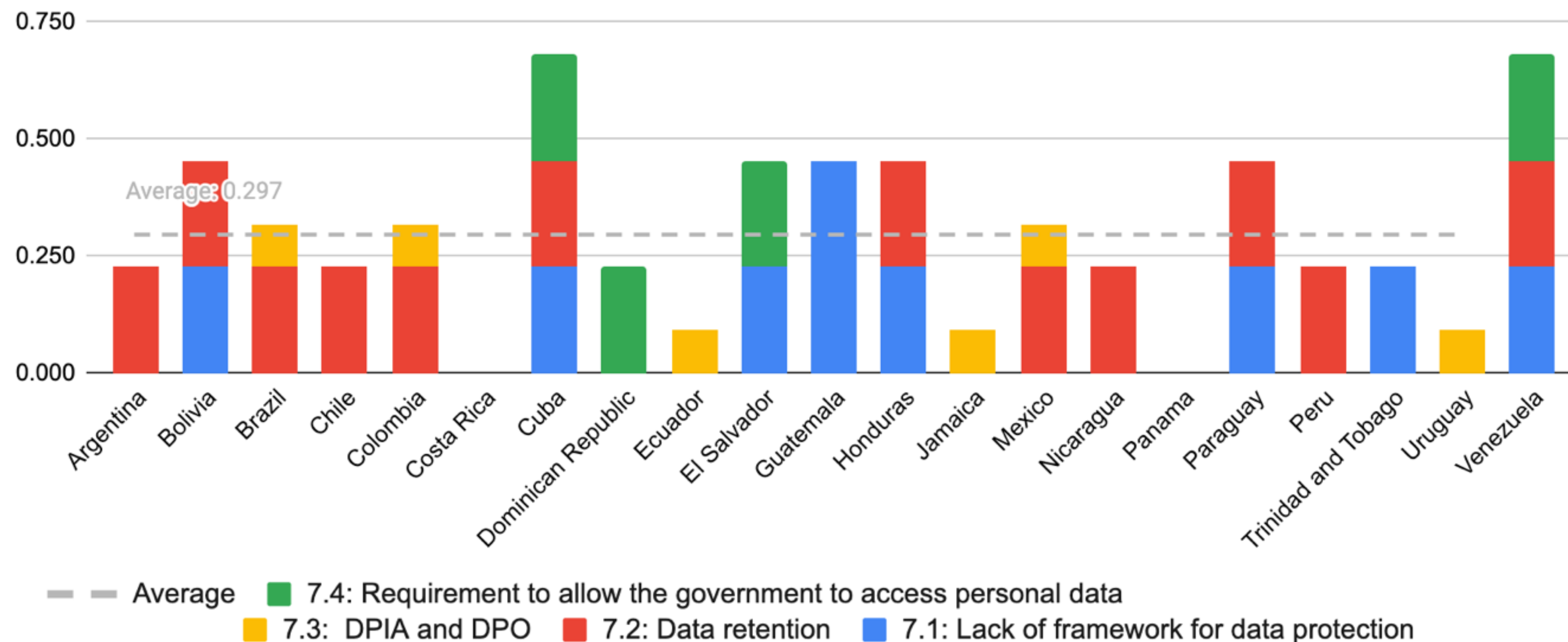
Telecom infrastructure and competition

- Cuba shows a very restrictive environment
- 7 countries restrict FDI in the sector
- Most countries do not implement functional or accounting separation
- Half of the countries have not appended the Telecom Reference Paper

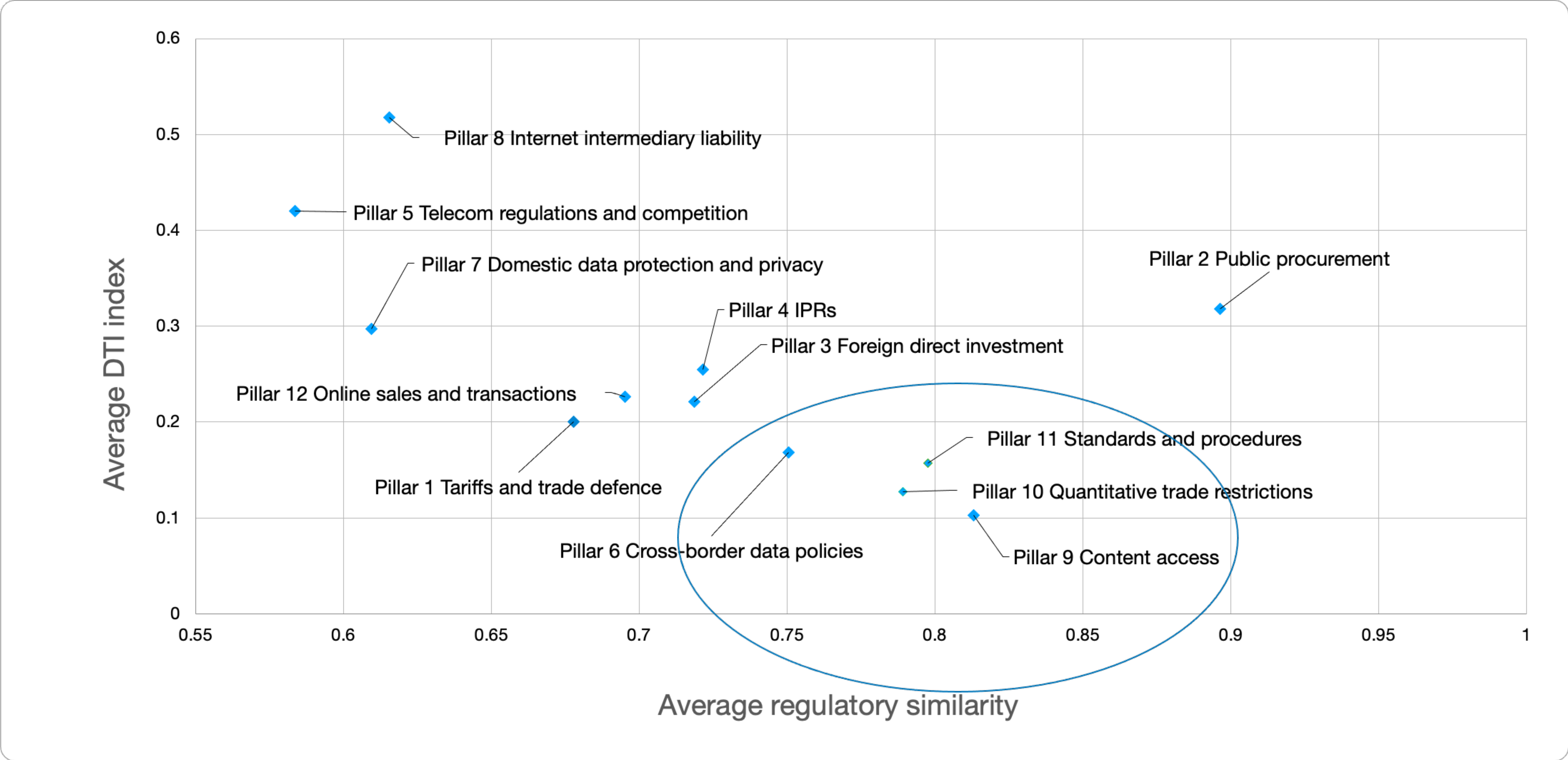


Domestic data policies

- 7 countries do not implement comprehensive data protection
- Over half of the countries implement data retention requirements
- 4 countries allow government access to personal data without court order

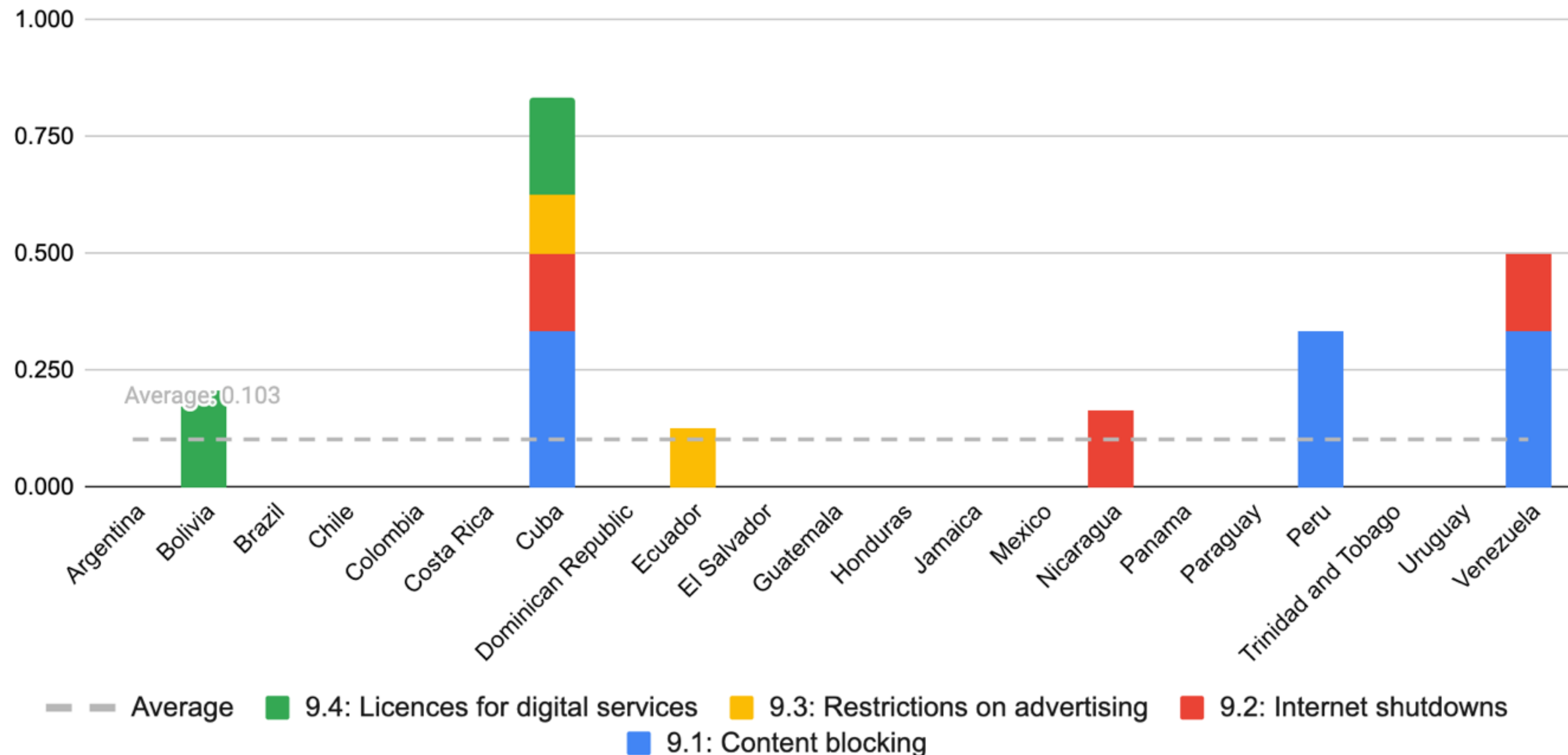


DTI index by policy area



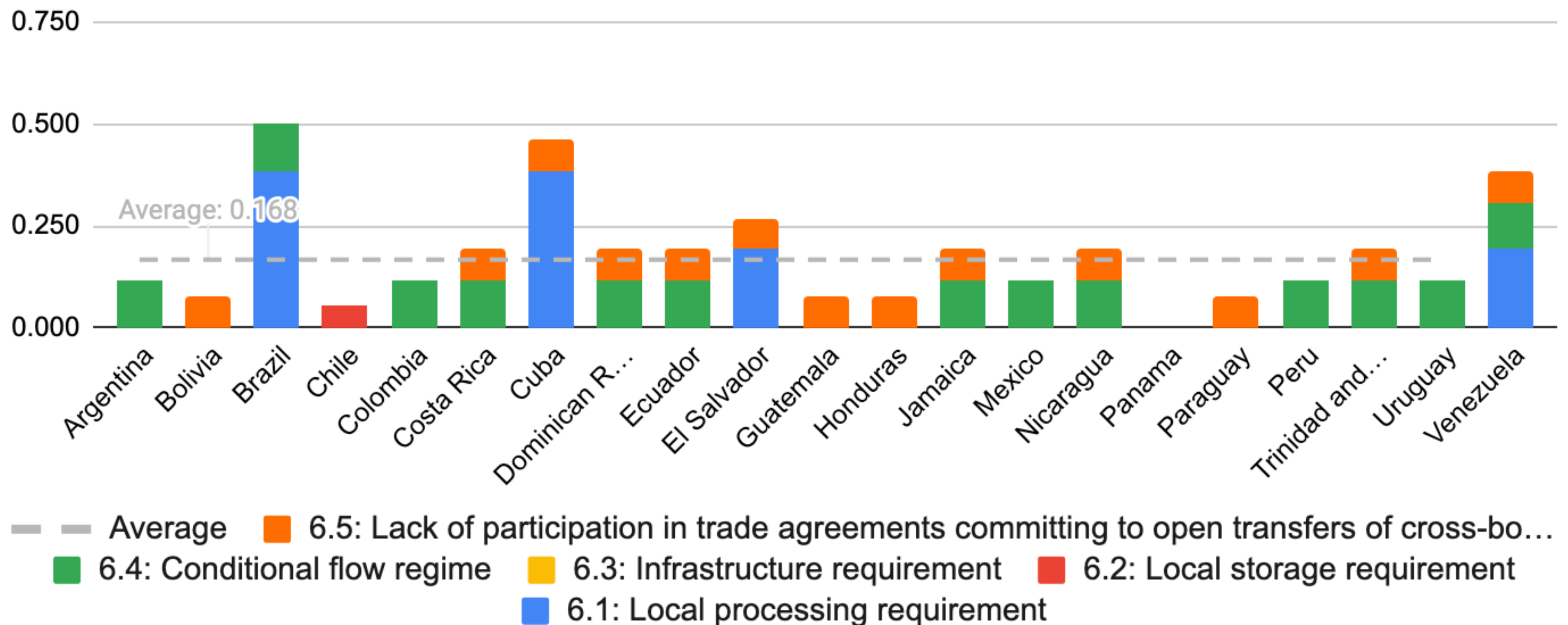
Content access

- Most countries have a fully open regulatory environment
- Content blocking is only practiced in 3 countries
- Internet shutdown are rare, but practiced in 3 countries



Cross-border data transfers

- Over half of the countries implement conditions for transfers of personal data across borders
- 5 countries implement restrictions on the location of certain data processing
- 8 countries have committed to free transfers of data in FTAs



Conclusions

- On average, Latin American countries tends to have an open environment for digital trade;
- The countries in the LAC region could consider implementing additional enabling policies to support digital trade;
- Intermediary liability, telecom regulation and policies on the domestic data processing show high potential for regional integration;
- Content access, cross-border data policies, quantitative trade restrictions and standards are policies areas are potentially low-hanging fruits to promote regional integration;
- Future areas of research: empirical analysis to identify policy priorities to promote digital trade integration.

THANK YOU!

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